Attorney Docket No.: AME-08122



application of: Jeffry D. Watkins, et al.

No.:

10/697,399

Group No.: 1653

Filed:

10/30/03

Examiner:

Entitled:

Methods of Optimizing Antibody Variable Region Binding Affinity

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS MAILED FEBRUARY 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dated: March 31, 2004

Sir or Madam:

This is responsive to the Notice To File Missing Parts Of Nonprovisional Application, regarding compliance with requirements for patent applications containing nucleotide sequence and/or amino acid sequence disclosures mailed February 5, 2004, and setting a two-month period for response, which ends on April 5, 2004. Prior to examination of the instant application, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this communication.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this communication.